

N^o 60

THE
QUEEN,
THE
Present Ministry,
LEWIS XIV.
AND
PHILIP V.

Unanswerably. Vindicated,

With respect to his *Catholick Majesty's* Possession of *Spain* and the *Indies* confirm'd to him in the Treaty of Peace now on Foot.

In a LETTER to a Noble Lord, concerning a scandalous Libel, entitled, *The Groans of Europe, &c.*

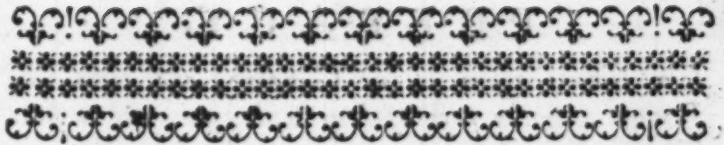
To which is prefix'd,

A PREFACE relating some Matters of Fact, which may tend farther to open the Eyes of Her Majesty's Deluded Subjects.

Nemo potest ad alium transferre plus juris, quam ipse habet.

London: Printed for John Morphew neare Stationers-Hall, 1712. Price 3 d.

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P R E F A C E.

AVING read, some time ago, in the Amsterdam Gazette, done by Du Breüil, a Paragraph from London, intimating, That a French Book, lately printed in Holland, under the Title of *Les Soupirs de l'Europe, &c.* made a great Noise in England, and was translating into our Tongue; I waited with Impatience the Edition of that doughty Piece. Nor was it out two Days, before I receiv'd Information, That it was translated by Du Boyer; and, That the *Faction*, for whose Cause it was publish'd, had bought up Fifteen Hundred Copies the first Day, boasting its Author's Unanswerable Learning and Argumentation.

Now, as the Correspondence between those French Hugonots, viz. Du Breüil at Amsterdam, and Du Boyer in some Garret in or near the City of London, is no Secret; it seems to me an easy Matter to guess at its Usefulness. The Former writes the Amsterdam Gazette; the Latter The Political State of Great Britain, and Annals of the QUEEN's Reign. Supposing, therefore, Du Boyer is displeas'd with any Proceedings of HER MAJESTY; or those who are put in Authority under HER; he has Nothing to do, but to commit his own Reflexions thereupon to Writing; and deliver them in at the Foreign Post-Office: Du Breüil

A 2 sopra

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soon inserts them in his Gazette, and then Du Boyer and the rest of 'em will give you a fair Translation, in spite of your Teeth. And indeed, it were to be wish'd, Du Boyer had been the only Person vers'd in this kind of Menage: But I have seen the QUEEN, the Ministry, and the Parliament insulted even in the Middle of their Session, with an Effronterie unheard-of till within these two or three Years. Letters, and Memorials, and Prefaces, and a thousand other false and scandalous Stories, have been industriously spread, and audaciously avow'd, to incense the Mobb against the Best of QUEENS, and Best of PATRIOTS: And as, by the Style, and Manner, and Matter of these Libels, it appears to every Common Reader, they owe their Birth to an English Faction; so we find, that certain Miscreants, who injuriously call themselves Englishmen, are never wanting to become their Foster-fathers, and to introduce them in an English Dress, under the Colour of a fair Translation. A Practice tolerated in no Government in the World, besides the English.

'Twas the Notion of this Dutch Correspondence, that at first induced me to believe, The Groans of Europe proceeded originally from the Tender Breast of that celebrated Refugee from Religion, Du Boyer. But upon perusing the Book, I found, that tho' it had no Foundation of Argument, it yet contain'd some Things high above the Reach of my supposed Author. Neither, as I desire to do every Man Justice, would I rob his Fellow-Labourer, that Renowned Arch-Enemy to G O D, His VICEGERENTS, and AMBASSADORS, John Tol. nd, of the Honour which may accrue to him from that Elaborate Work. At the same time

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time, I must not omit to recommend to my Gentle Readers, Du Boyer's Political Fragments, his Annals, and particularly the Dedications of his Two Years last publish'd, for a Specimen of his Parts and Principles, if it can avail them any thing to see it.

I know not how 'tis, but having set off my Preface with the Names of such Authors, I am forc'd, by a necessary Induction, to make due Mention of Tol. nd's Senior in Impiety, the old Cameronian Hypocrite R. dp. th, who is once more fully bent upon the Martyrdom of a Pillory, for inventing and publishing more Scandal every Week in his *Lying P. st*, than, with Diference to my L.C.F.'s Opinion, can be raked out of any Three Years of Abel Roper's Post-Boys. I will allow Something to be due also to his Ingenious Assistant Bob Hush, who happening to be expell'd the H. se of C. mm. ns for Notorious Bribery and Corruption, has the Happiness to be employ'd in the Glorious Undertaking of Libelling the Government; tho' I cannot remember, that Mr. Cæsar, formerly sent to the Tower, for speaking a Notorious Truth of the late Lord Tr.....r, had ever any Preferment of this kind conferr'd upon Him.

Here I cannot enough commend the generous Endeavours of a Knot of otherwise Obscure Citizens ty'd fast together in the Band of Whigish Amity by the Bullying Maggot-monger and self-conceited Politician H. ls. y, the Disappointed Courtier P. ch. y, and the Noisy Stockjobbing B. dc. ck; who finding themselves utterly unable to produce any thing in Print, out of their own Fund of Natural Wit, have, by contributing a few Guineas, meerly forc'd up a Puny Author of the same Side, who, after having run himself

out

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out of Breath with Billingsgate Raillery, tacks a few of De Foe's Reviews to his Performance, and calls it a History of the Jacobite Clubs, Price Six-Pence. How well this Piece has succeeded, very few know; but most of those few say too many, and alledge, their Money was thrown away.

I hope, the Liberties secured to Us Englishmen, by the late Happy Revolution, will bear me out in doing Justice to some Deadly Advocates for Religion, as well as to those for Property. I could run you over now a whole Alphabet of such, as Cleveland had formerly Regard to, when he made this lamentable Complaint:

Unhappy Church! the Vipers that do share
Thy greatest Honours, help to make thee bare
And void of all thy Dignities and Stores!
Alas! Thine own Sons prove the Forest Boars!

But I have too much Veneration for their Order, to multiply on this Occasion. Suffice it to instance in S. A..ph, B.k.r, B.rt.n, B.lt.r, Br.df.rd, Cl.rke, H..dly, K..nn.t, S.r.m, W.ft, and the Ingenious and Modest Canon-maker Wh.ft.n, Arabick Professor at his House in Hatton-Garden; whose Escape from the Upper H..se of C.....n, tho' so great a Mystery to most of the Inferior Cl..gy, I do assure you, is none at all either to his Associate Eml.n, or to me; or, in general, to any who were oblig'd with the Perusal of Wh.ft.n's Original Copy of his Historical Preface:

These, and such as these, are the Men, of whom I would advise all true Englishmen, as they

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they value the CHURCH, the QUEEN, or the CONSTITUTION, to beware; for, as their Champion De Foe avows, they support their Cause by Eyes and Falshood. I would likewise caution them against all those in general, who have so accustom'd themselves to the Cant-Words of Revolution, Liberty, Property, Pretender, Popery, Slavery, Arbitrary Power, &c. that they can scarce say any thing else; because it is notorious, That as these Men are ready, upon all Occasions, to turn their Liberty into Licentiousness, their Religion into Rebellion, and their Faith into Faction; so they give what Sense they please to the abovemention'd Terms, about which they make such a Pother. How, for Instance, do they found the Revolution, but upon Rebellion? Liberty, with them, is appropriated to themselves; and tho' 'tis Arbitrary Power, Tyranny, and What-not? in a King of England to divest a Corporation of its Charter; a Whig Ministry may very justifiably impose or take away such Things where they think fit; a Whig Lord-Mayor may make what Alderman he pleases, in Violation of the Laws and Privileges of the City; and finally, a Mercenary Whig Constable shall be abett'd in running Persons of Worth and Reputation into a nauseous Prison at Noon-day, in order to be sent for Soldiers, contrary to Law.

This, O my Countrymen! is what Many of you have found, by sed Experience, to be the Meaning of Liberty and Property, in the Hands of the Whigs. And 'tis much after the same Manner they proceed in all other Cases. How do they shew their Affection for the QUEEN, otherwise than

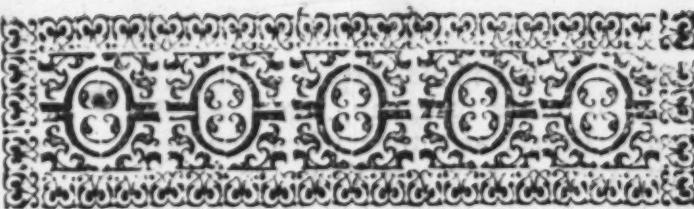
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than by most inhumanely reviling Her Royal Father, Uncle, &c. ? And can they better manifest their Submission to those true P A T R I O T S now in Authority, than by employing Ruffians to assassinate them ? or by spiriting a D - h - n and a P - c - rtn - y to cut their Throats, or a Lambeth-eying B p to make I know not what----- of them ? And yet, methinks the great Duty of Self-Preservation is too much neglected ! M - l b - gh has Leave to travel, as if S - tsb - y's Plotting of old was effaced out of Memory, or there had never been such Names as Gregg and Valiere in the World.

One Word concerning the following Pages, and I have done. I will be bold to say, there never was more Argument written in a smaller Compass, than this is. It proves incontestably King Philip's Right to the Crown of Spain, which tho' it has been all along evident, was nevertheless constantly deny'd by the Whigs. Allowing Four Things to give Right to Princes, viz. Blood, Possession, Consent of the People, and Conquest ; does it not then appear, that the Emperor has no Pretension, but the last ? After this, 'tis an amazing thing, that any Englishman should be so obstinately blind, as to insist upon his Country's supporting that hopeless Claim ; but such as we have been describing, are Men who delight in War, and, therefore, are for him who will carry That on longest ; as appears from their present Usage of the Dutch, whom they begin to load with opprobrious Names, for leaving his Imperial Majesty in the Lurch.



T H E



THE
QUEEN,
THE
Present Ministry, &c.
VINDICATED.



IS your Opinion, my Lord,
That all Greans are reserv'd
for the Passion of Love; and,
That the Fair Sex alone have
a Right to demand them:
But I have sent you a new
Book, which will teach you,
That *Europe* groans after o-
ther Objects. I leave it to you, my Lord, to
judge, whether the Author has any good Ground
to make the finest Quarter of the World aft the
Person of *Heraclitus*; but be sure, don't laugh
while Others are under Affliction; since 'twou'd
be Breach of Charity not to follow St. Paul's Com-
mand, namely, to weep with those that weep.

The Object which excites the Groans of *Eu-
rope*, is the Queen of *England's* Speech to Her
Parliament concerning the Project of a General

B Peace.

Peace. You will be surpriz'd, my Lord, that *Europe* is made to groan, upon the View of a Plan of Peace, at a time when the People every where concur, by their Vows, to obtain of Heaven that which makes the Happiness of all the World.

The Queen of *Great-Britain* being more sensibly touch'd with the real Calamities of *Europe*, than with its pretended Groans; and Her Eyes being open'd with respect to the Motives which put *Christendom* in a Flame; She found that the ambitious Designs of Two Powers bred that Combustion, viz. those of the House of *Austria* on one Side, and those of the *States-General* of the United-Provinces on the other.

Such was the Artifice of those Two Powers, that they gain'd the Secret of arming, in their Quarrel, half the Princes of *Europe*, to baffle the Chimerical Project of Universal Monarchy, which they charg'd upon *France*, while, 'tis plain both from their Publick and Private Treaties, their only Drift was, to aggrandize themselves at the Expence of the other Princes in Alliance with them.

Many Years elaps'd, before the Veil, which cover'd this Artifice, was taken off. Two great Captains held the two Ends on't, and took Care to hinder the Power which contributed most to the Support of the War, and receiv'd least Advantage by it, from prying into the Mystery of the Emperor and the *Dutch*.

'Tis no ne
thing to see the House of *Austria*
intent v
er Grandeur; but it is, to see the
Princip
members of the Germanick Body labour
for the own Destruction, by contributing to
wards the Success of Her ambitious Projects.
Had not their Hatred of *France* hoodwink'd most
of

of the Princes of the Empire, there's not one but would consider what it has cost him, since, by an uninterrupted Succession, the *Imperial Dignity* has been conferr'd upon one Family only.

Italy, formerly so studious to keep the Emperors at a Distance from her Neighbourhood, has lately experienc'd, through her own Indolence, what she has, one Day, to fear ; since the Emperor, from the Time he first enter'd that Country, has made all the Princes thereof groan in good earnest, by exacting immense Sums from them ; and forced Torrents of Tears from the Eyes of all the People where-ever his Troops have come, sparing neither Things Sacred nor Prophanes.

The *Dutch* have no less manifested their Ambition, tho' they have carry'd it after a more sly and covert Manner. Every one knows, That since the Establishment of their Sovereignty, by the Assistance of Queen *Elizabeth*, and *Henry IV.* *Lewis XIII.* and *Lewis XIV.* Kings of *France*, there's not a Quarter of the World, which they have not visited, in order to lay a Foundation for their Government, under Pretence of Commerce ; and that too, at the Expence of those, who are even now their greatest Friends and dearest Allies.

While *Spain* was in a manner in Combustion under the Reign of *Charles II.* the *Dutch* took Advantage of that State of Impotency to augment their Barrier, and to reap some Profit from the Commerce of the *West-Indies*. From that time, there has appear'd no Treaty, either of Commerce, or of War, but the *States-General* have slid into it some new Clauses to their Advantage ; and 'tis their dangerous Politicks that are now lately seen through, and this kind of Management, which have induced

the Queen of *England*, and the New Ministry, to open their Eyes with regard to the true Interests of their Nation, and, with greater Wisdom than those who govern *Holland*, to listen to the Proposals of the *French* King, though much inferior to those which that Prince made at the *Hague* in 1709, and at *Gertruydenberg* in 1710.

Your Lordship must not imagine, That, agreeably to what the *Dutch* gave out, it was the Interest of their Allies, which then made them so difficult. *England* has discover'd, notwithstanding all their Precautions, That they were animated by a Private Interest, supported by the Two Generals who commanded their Armies, and who found Means, by continuing the War, to make themselves necessary, to enrich themselves, and to govern.

The Queen has expos'd that Mystery of Iniquity, by displacing the Duke of *Marlborough*, and all his Family, to the great Surprise of the *Dutch* and the Whigs, who could not, with all their Efforts, hinder the Parliament from proceeding against that fortunate Commander, for the Sums he had appropriated to himself.

The Emperor would soon be appriz'd of the Intentions of the *States-General*, if he himself were to enter into a particular Examen of this War. His *Imperial* Majesty would find, That the System of the Grand Alliance was, to engage his House in such great Enterprizes, to the end that after the Peace, remaining Titular Prince of the *Netherlands*, and not being able to reimburse the Sums advanc'd by *Holland*, he must, by way of Pledge, leave in the Hands of that Republick the best Places of those Provinces, which so would undergo the Fate of

Maestricht,

Maastricht, and being made Part of the Barrier demanded of France, must consequently render the Dutch Sovereigns of the Seventeen Provinces. Add to this, That if the Emperor were to be Master of Spain and the Indies, that Prince not being in a Condition to traffick by Sea, he would be oblig'd to have Recourse to them, and by that Means would exclude all other Nations from the Commerce of America.

This, my Lord, is the Discovery which the Queen of England and Her New Ministry have made; and which is to the Dutch a real Occasion of Groaning. It is hard indeed to see themselves frustrated of so many Advantages by a Plan of Peace, when they thought to obtain them by the Continuation of the War. No wonder, therefore, they have kept up so good a Harmony with the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene, and set so many different Engines at work, to baffle the Queen's Projects; and that they promis'd themselves such great Matters from the Junto of Whigs.

The Author of the Book of the *Groans of Europe* had spoken much more justly, if he had entitled his Work, *The Groans of Holland*, upon Comparing the Negotiations at Utrecht with those at the Hague and Gertruydenberg, and Reflecting upon the dismal Consequences of the Victory of Denain, the Taking of Marchiennes the Magazine of their whole Campagne, the Raising the Siege of Landrecy, the Conquest of Douay, that of Quesnoy, the Disappointment of all their big Hopes, and their Insecurity in the midst of their own Dominions; They! who but two Months before boasted they would put Paris under Contribution, and winter their Troops in the Heart of France! How ought this Reverse, wrought by the Finger of God, to humble them, and make them

them groan ! You will forgive me, My Lord, if I don't write you a formal Refutation of the *Groans of Europe*, whose whole Fabrick is erected upon the Renunciation of *Maria-Theresa of Austria* to the Crown of *Spain*, which is a Plea produced in Court after Verdict is given.

The Affair is decided : — *Philip V.* shall remain upon the Throne of *Spain* ; *England* acknowledges him ; and the Emperor ought to be very well satisfy'd with the fine Partition that is yielded to him, since 'tis to the Longest Sword, not to Justice, that the most valuable Territories in *Italy* are granted.

Would the Emperor's Council but reflect without Passion upon the Queen of *England*'s Scheme, they must acknowledge, That that Princess gives his Imperial Majesty a Satisfaction, which in Fact is not his Due ; since, by the Treaty of Alliance, he is excluded from all the Territories of the *Spanish Monarchy*, in case he should come to the Empire. Now this Case has happen'd, and yet he is the First that crys out, and exclaims against the Queen's Conduct.

'Tis *Europe*'s Misfortune, that Princess was not sooner inform'd of the Intentions of the *Dutch* ; She would then have sav'd all the Blood that has been spilt these three last Years, by taking just Measures to put an end, by a speedy Peace, to a War that has made *Europe* groan for these dozen Years.

Those who read the Queen's Speech to Her Parliament, without Prejudice, will be surpriz'd at the wicked Turn which the Allies give it, but more at the Endeavours of the Author of the *Groans*, to persuade the Publick, That the Allies never had the least Intimation of the Queen's Designs, with relation to a General Peace.

That

That Author has forgot, how the Book of *The Conduit of the Allies* has bely'd his Discourse, since for this Twelve-month past they have not ceas'd to set their Emissaries at work in *England*. If it be true, what that Author advances, That they were ignorant of the Queen's Designs, Why such Debating in the Two Houses of Parliament? Why so many Struggles to support the Whigs, in Opposition to the Court and New Ministry? Why was Count *Gallas* obliged to leave *England*, for speaking with too little Moderation against the Project of Peace? Why, to conclude, was a new Way of Negotiating at *Utrecht* invented, and the Regulating of the Conferences there, according to those of *Nimeguen* and *Ryswick*, obstinately refus'd?

If, after all these fruitless Attempts, they will plead Ignorance of a Fact made Publick by several Communications, they must take the whole World for a Pack of Fools. Let them say they don't like it, and welcome; but 'tis a Shame to affirm they did not know it.

Agreeable to the Principles of the Emperor and the Dutch, the Right to Crowns does not go by Proximity of Blood, or the most Authentick Titles; but only according to what best suits the Interest of the Court of *Vienna*, and the *States-General*. To fear the Aggrandizement of any Power, is enough for them to arm all *Europe* against a Prince declar'd by Nature, and establish'd by Providence, to be Heir to his Ancestors.

The House of *Austria* is happy, that this Maxim which she pleads now, was unknown Two Hundred Years ago; for had it been never so little practis'd then, she had never united to the Empire the Kingdoms of *Bohemia* and *Hungary*, which have

have render'd her so formidable; and all Europe would have excluded *Charles V.* from the Throne of *Spain*, only Europe at that time of day knew not what it was to groan!

Such Maxims may be receiv'd among Barbarians, who had no other Law but their Caprice; but to introduce 'em among Christians, is to authorize the most unjust Wars.

And yet this is the Foundation upon which those in *Holland* build the honest Desire of never laying down their Arms, till they have done Things impossible.

In a Regular Court of Justice, where Equity, not Violence decides, 'twou'd be an easy Matter to prove, That the Crown of *Spain* does lawfully belong to *Philip V.* and to a prudent People, govern'd not by Passion, but by Reason, 'twou'd be as easy to demonstrate, That it cannot be snatch'd away from him. The first appears, in that his Right is establish'd by the Law of Nature, that of the Land, by Custom, and the Will of *Charles II.* confirm'd by the Joint Suffrages of all the States of the Monarchy, whose Business it is, according to the Author of the *Groans*, to confirm, or disannull all Dispositions made by the Kings of *Spain*. The Emperor has nothing to plead in Bar of these strong Titles, but the Renunciation of *Maria-Theresa of Austria*, eldest Daughter of *Philip IV.* the Nullity of which Act has long since been made appear, so that we need only refer any one, who has an Inclination to make himself Master of this Argument, to the printed Books. For my part, I shall say but one Word, but that one Word pretty peremptory, to wit, That the very Arguments made use of by the Author of the *Groans*, shal suffice me to prove,
That

That if the Renunciation of *Maria-Theresa* of *Austria* is valid, then the Will of *Charles II.* is also valid; and if the Will is null, the Renunciation must be more null; and, consequently, the Law of Nature, the Right of Blood, being on King *Philip's* Side, the Crown of *Spain* does undoubtedly belong to him; and so, the War carry'd on against him is unjust.

For if, according to the Remarks of the Author of the *Groans*, pagg. 59 and 60. the Kings of *Spain*, not enjoying the Kingdom *ex dominio*, cannot sell, give away, or alienate their Subjects like a Flock of Sheep; it follows, That the Kings of *Spain* are less able to oblige their Children to sell, yield, or make any Alienation whatsoever, of the Natural Rights they have to the Crown.

That Author produces several Instances, which prove, That all such Acts as have not been approv'd by the States of the Kingdom, are of no Effect.

Now, the Emperor cannot deny, (for all Europe knows it,) but that *Charles II.*'s Will was approv'd by all the States of the Kingdom of *Spain*, who, immediately upon the Death of that Prince, sent a Solemn Deputation into *France*, to desire the King to grant the Duke of *Anjou* to *Spain*, pursuant to the last Will of *Charles II.*

The Emperor must, moreover, acknowledge, That with all the Forces of the Allies, and all the good Success imaginable, he could never make that People own him for King, tho' he was twice Master of *Madrid*.

I would tain, therefore, have the Author of the *Groans* tell us, what Title one must have, to be Lawful King of *Spain*. Is it the Law of the Land? That is for us. Is it Custom?

That is for us. Is it a Will? We have that: Is it the Acclamation of the People? I dare say, No-body but *Philip V.* will boast of that: It was universal upon his Accession; it lasted three Years without the least Contradiction; and it was purely owing to Intrigue, that some few of his Subjects were afterwards debauch'd to incur the Guilt of Manifest Rebellion, by violating their former Oaths.

But why does not our Author, in his profound Erudition, and in the Collection of Pieces he has made, say one Word of the famous Wills of *Charles V.* and *Philip II.*? The Reason is, because they make directly against him, and he is not paid for speaking the Truth, which is contrary to the Intent of those who set him to work. Now you must know, those two Wills contain a gradual and perpetual Substitution of the Crown of *Spain*, preferring the Males before the Females, and the Elder Daughters before the Younger, in all their Posterity. I affirm, therefore, That either the Crown of *Spain* ought to be regulated according to the Disposals of her Kings, or it cannot be settled by Right of Blood; in a word, either that Crown is Alienable, or it is not. If it is Alienable, the Substitution being made by the Ancient Kings of the House of *Austria*, their Descendents could not change it; and consequently, neither posteriour Wills, nor Renunciations, nor any other Disposal whatsoever, can prejudice it. Our Author is too well skill'd in the Law, to be ignorant of its first Rudiments. If the Crown is not Alienable, the Wills of *Charles V.* and *Philip II.* and, if you please, you may add that of *Charles II.* signify'd nothing; for they say nothing but what the Law said

said before : But the Wills of *Philip III.* and *Philip IV.* being contrary to Law, are null to all Intents and Purposes, and the Renunciations of *Anne* and *Maria-Theresa*, being contrary to Law, are also void to all Intents and Purposes; and consequently, the Wills of the three Monarchs by which *Philip V.* is call'd to the Crown, are no farther to be accounted valid, than as they are agreeable to the Fundamental Laws of the Kingdom ; whence it follows, That if *Philip IV.* and *Maria-Theresa*, his Daughter, had any kind of Power to exclude some of his Descendents, contrary to all Justice ; *Charles II.* had as good, to restore them in the Order of Justice itself ; if the Father had Power to do an Injury, the Son might much more justly repair it. And indeed, this is the very Point which renders *Charles's* Disposal legitimate and fair, in that it restored Things to their natural Condition, and gave us to understand how far Renunciations are valid, to wit, in the Case of Incompatibility of Two Crowns ; and how far they are not, viz. to exclude the Sole and True Heir.

Thus *Philip V.* does not come to the Crown in Right of his Grandmother, nor in Right of his Great-Grandfather by the Mother's Side ; but in Right of himself. He does not represent them, that he should be bound by their Deeds ; but is call'd by the Laws, by Blood, and by Nature. *Charles II.* did not properly appoint him, but only pitch'd upon him among his true Successors, because the others were design'd to wear the Crown of *Frayse*, and it best suited the Interest of the Two Kingdoms, to have two different Kings.

C 2.

Thus.

Thus much for Reasons, which I defy the Author in question to answer, otherwise than by *Groans*. But there is one Thing very cautious in his Book ; and that is, that after he has laid down Principles, he denies all the Consequences. Personal Dispositions, according to him, are mere Ballads ; but Renunciations are Fundamental Laws, as if Renunciations were not Personal Dispositions.

I'd fain ask him, whether the *Cortes* in 1618. had better Authority to subvert the Ancient Laws, than the *Cortes* in 1709. had to maintain them ? The Former excluded the Children of *Maria Theresa* ; the Latter swore, that *Philip V.* and his Children are Rightful Kings. If the Former had Power to make a Law, certainly the Latter might make one too. What, therefore, is the Difference between 'em ? Why, the pretended Law of 1618. was contrary to the Irrevocable Laws of the Monarchy ; and that of 1709. was the Restoring and Confirming of them. Pray observe, by the by, how careful the *Austrian* Princes were, to make *Maria Theresa*, and the Archduchess Electress of *Bavaria*, (who might transfer the Right to *Spain* elsewhere) renounce, tho' those Princesses who might carry it into the *German* Branch, never did so. Is it not plain, This was purely to fix that Patrimony in themselves, notwithstanding the Rules they had given them, acknowledging it Feminine for their House, and Masculine for all the World besides ? It was to do Violence to Nature, and force Providence ; and therefore, you see, Providence laugh'd at 'em, and Nature has got the better. Nothing, after all, can be establish'd upon a more solid Foundation, than *Philip V's* Right ; and nothing can
be

be worse grounded, than the Emperor's Pretensions. There now remains only to prove, That it would be the highest Degree of Chimerical Folly in the World, to persist obstinately to dethrone that Prince.

What has been left undone, to compass that End? How many Rivers of Blood spilt? What immense Treasures lavish'd, to gain that Point so much the Desire of all the Confederate Powers? Can Men hope for greater Successes than those they have had, which avail'd 'em Nothing? As long as the *Spaniards* continue faithful, you might get 20 Battles of *Saragossa*, and 25 Times take *Madrid*, and yet be forc'd after all to retire in Confusion.

The Allies were the same with respect to *Spain*, as the Chymists are about the Philosophers Stone. They always thought to hold it fast, and yet they always lost it; because, indeed, they wanted the First Matter, the Hearts of the People. Is it just, therefore, to fall out with the Queen, because she was the first that discover'd the Impossibility of an Enterprize the Court of *Vienna* was pleas'd to put Her upon? Are not the most short-liv'd Errors the best?

But then, says the Author of the *Groans*, you accuse the Queen of flattering Herself without Foundation, when she declar'd to Her Parliament, so many times over, That the War must be carry'd on, till the House of *Austria* was put in Possession of *Spain* and the *Indies*.

To this I answer, That we must distinguish, 1. While the Emperor *Joseph* was yet alive, the two Branches of that House might be look'd upon as separate, in like manner as that of *Bourbon* now is; but since his Death without Male-Issue, All is united upon the same Head; and let our Author,

Author, with his ridiculous Calculations, say what he will, so great Power in the Hands of one Prince, at least as proud and ambitious as any of his Predecessors, would be exorbitant. The Queen, therefore, has good Reason to have different Sentiments since April 1711. 2. Experience teaches us many Things: Could it be imagin'd, at first, That *Philip V.* was so belov'd of his Subjects, that he should ever find in them Ressources against the greatest Rebuffs of Fortune? and, That his Rival should never be less Master of *Spain*, than when in Possession of its Capital? Such Events are so miraculous, that they could not be believ'd without Experiment; but to have two several Tryals, and not believe it, is an unpardonable Blindness in Men who sit at the Helm of Governments. 3. The Queen was not yet sensible of the Breach of Faith of Her Allies. Certain Persons abusing the Confidence Her Majesty fancy'd to be due to their Wit, and Parts, and Successes, sacrificed Her insensibly to the Court of *Vienna*, to *Holland*, and to their private Interests, by inducing Her to continue, under the Colour of a scrupulous Fidelity to Her Engagements, a War from which She alone was to reap no Advantage, tho' at the same time it ruin'd Her Subjects. 'Tis true, we read in *Aesop's Fables*, That the Monkey made use of the Cat's Paw to rake the Chestnuts out of the Fire; but we do not find, That when the Cat grew weary of her Complaisance, the Monkey had the Impudence to cry out *Murder*, and to upbraid her with Breach of Faith.

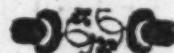
We have but one Thing more to examine; namely, Whether *Europe* ought rather to groan upon the Making of a Peace according to the Queen's Plan, than upon the Prospect of an everlasting War, agreeable to the Schemes of the Imperialists

perialists and the Dutch. Not to insist upon the Common-Place, which says, *A bad Peace is better than a good War*, let us see, with our Author, Whether the Peace now in Agitation, is not preferable to the War in Cogitation. If it is bad, the High Allies were in the wrong, when in the Year 1701. they made their Treaty of Grand Alliance; for by this Project of Peace, they have All they then desired, and all the Advantages they propos'd to themselves by taking up Arms. It is properly from that Treaty, that the Queen of Great Britain has drawn up the Articles of a General Satisfaction. If the Emperor and the Dutch have taken no Care of their Interests, at a time when Nothing hindred them from stipulating what they pleas'd, they can blame no body but themselves: But, says our Author, their Stomach is since come to them, and they'll cry, if they are not humour'd; they thought to have swallow'd up one Crown, and to have divided the other. Here I must put my last Question to him, and intreat him, and all the Scribblers of Libels against France, to tell me, once for all, upon what Foot we ought to regard that Crown? They generally alledge Two things against her. 1. That her Power must absolutely be reduced; and 2. That this might easily be done. These two Suppositions seem to them necessary to excite Hatred and Hope at the same time; but unhappily they incur a childish Contradiction; for, to prove the one, they say, France has formidable Forces, and inexhaustible Funds; and, That if Care be not taken, she will over-run Europe: To prove the other, they affirm, That France is at the last Gasp, has but one Squeek for her Life, and that one Push more would effectually do her Business. This does not at all agree, and therefore is very easi-
ly

ly answer'd. If she is so weak, why are you afraid of her? If she is so strong, how will you reduce her? Men of Sense and Gravity, who do not exaggerate Matters, content themselves with speaking a Truth upon this Occasion, to wit, That *France* is powerful enough to withstand the greatest Efforts of her Enemies, and yet is not strong enough to attack the Liberties of *Europe*. If she took care to extend herself some forty or fifty Years ago, it was because *Paris* was a little too near her Frontier. Prince *Eugene* will confirm what I say, who having laid Siege to *Lansdrey*, promis'd his Army to winter them in the Isle of *France*, and that Major-General *Groveſteyn* had already bespoke their Quarters. It is not, therefore, boundless Ambition in a Prince to endeavour to cover his Kingdom on the side it is most streighten'd; but it is, to desire to possess at the same time *Germany*, the *Netherlands*, *Hungary*, *Bokemia*, *Italy*, *Spain*, and the *Indies*.

We must therefore conclude, That a War, which, if successful, would tend to Nothing but to double the Territories of the *Dutch*, and to quadruple those of the Emperor; and which, if not successful, might give *France* more Territories than she desires; is a War which it is high time to put an end to; and, That on the contrary, a Peace which leaves the Two Great Houses in an exact *Equilibrium*, and restores a perfect Tranquillity to poor *Europe* torn in pieces by so many Calamities, can make Nobody groan, but the Disturbers of the Publick Peace, and the Common Enemies of Mankind.

I am, &c.



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